

**I. Introduction.**

**II. Jesus possesses all authority. v. 31-41**

**A. Jesus teaches with authority. v. 31-32,43 Mark 1:21-22 Mt. 7:28-29**

1. He comes down to Capernaum and teaches in the synagogue. 4:15-16 Mt. 4:13
2. The people are astonished by the authority of His message. 4:14,18 2:48 9:43
3. When the Word of God is faithfully read and proclaimed, Jesus authoritatively speaks to you. Rom. 10:17 Eph. 2:17 Heb. 4:12 2 Tim. 4:1ff 2:15

**B. Jesus exercises authority over demons. v. 33-37,41 Mark 1:23-28**

1. Demons are fallen angels who are under the devil's control. Jude 1:6 2 Pe. 4:5
2. Why is there so much demonic activity during Jesus' earthly ministry? 1 Jo. 3:18
3. Jesus again goes into battle against the evil one. 4:1ff 10:18 1 Jo. 3:18 Gen. 3:15
4. Jesus demonstrates His power and authority to cast out demons. v. 35,41
5. It is ironic that the demons recognize Jesus but His own people do not. v. 34,41a 1:35 3:22 4:3 Js. 2:19 Jo. 6:69 Acts 4:27 Isa. 6:3
6. Why does Jesus silence them? v. 35,41b Acts 16:17ff John 6:15 7:20 8:48ff 10:20
7. Again, the people marvel at Jesus' authority. v. 36 Mt. 9:33
8. What is the nature of our spiritual warfare? Eph. 6:12ff 1 Ti. 4:1 1 Co. 10:20-21 Dt. 32:17 Lev. 17:7 Gal. 5:16ff Js. 1:14-15 1 Pet. 5:8-9
9. Christ has conquered the evil spiritual forces on our behalf. 10:18-20 Rom. 16:20 8:37 Heb. 2:14-15 Col. 2:13-15

**C. Jesus exercises authority over sickness. v. 38-40 Mark 1:29-30**

1. Simon Peter was a married man. v. 38 1 Co. 9:5 1 Tim. 4:1-5
2. Peter's mother-in-law has a very high fever. v. 38b Col. 4:14
3. Jesus authoritatively rebukes the fever like He rebuked the demon. v. 39 8:24
4. This healing is both instantaneous and complete.
5. The actions of Peter's mother-in-law demonstrate both the perfection of Jesus' healing and her diligent hospitable character. 22:26-27 8:1-3 Acts 16:33-34
6. Many more were healed that day. v. 40
7. Jesus, Who possesses all authority, is also a compassionate Savior. 9:56

**D. What do these great works signify? 4:18-19 11:20**

1. Jesus has come to wage war against the devil and to liberate the oppressed from the effects of sin and evil in the world. 4:18-19 7:22 9:1-2,56 10:17ff
2. Jesus' work of casting out demons and healing is an inbreaking of the kingdom of God which looks forward to the perfect culmination. Rev. 12:9 21:4 Mt. 25:41
3. These signs prove that Jesus is Who He claims to be. 5:20ff 11:20 John 11:47
4. His works of healing also signify Jesus' spiritual work. Mt. 8:16-17 Isa. 53:4
5. Jesus still delivers those who are spiritually oppressed. Eph. 2:1ff Col. 1:13ff

**E. Should we expect the same miraculous works to take place today?**

1. The great inbreaking of the heavenly kingdom during the times of Jesus and His apostles through miracles and healings was a unique event in history.
2. Should we expect Jesus to always heal all of our sickness? 2 Co. 12:12 Heb. 2:4 Gal. 4:13-15 Phil. 2:25-27 1 Tim. 5:23 2 Tim. 4:20
3. We go to Jesus with our problems, trusting that He cares and that He will help us. v. 38b Heb. 4:15-16 1 Pet. 5:7
4. Jesus is still combating the forces of evil.

### III. Jesus is under the authority of the Father Who sent Him on a kingdom mission. v. 42-44

- A. Why does Jesus go to a secluded place? v. 42a 5:16 Mark 1:35
  - 1. He prays and enjoys uninterrupted communion with His father. Mark 1:35
  - 2. If our Lord needed such rest, how much more do we!
  
- B. The people of Capernaum insist that Jesus remain with them. v. 42b
  - 1. Their response is very different from the folks in Nazareth. v. 28-30,32,36-37
  - 2. They still don't truly understand Who Jesus is and Why He has come. 10:15
  - 3. Jesus will not submit to their control.
  
- C. Jesus must fulfill the purpose for which the Father sent Him. v. 43-44
  - 1. He has been sent on a mission. 9:48 10:16 John 3:16 5:30 6:38 9:4 17:18 22:30
  - 2. Jesus must preach the good news of the Kingdom to other cities of the Jews. v. 43 2:49 4:18-19 9:22 24:26,44
  - 3. The Kingdom is both already present and not yet fully consummated. 1:32-33 12:31-32 6:20 10:9,11 11:20 17:20-21 11:2 13:28-29 19:11 21:31
  - 4. Preaching is the primary means by which the Kingdom is advanced. Ro. 10:14-15
  
- D. How do you use the authority God has given you?
  - 1. Jesus used His authority to carry out the Father's will and to serve His people with love and compassion.
  - 2. Are you devoted to fulfilling God's mission for your life as you participate in advancing His kingdom? 1 Cor. 10:31 2 Co. 5:9 Eph. 2:10 Titus 2:11-14
  - 3. Do you exercise your authority to serve others? John 13:3ff Eph. 5:25ff
  
- E. How are people today like the people of Capernaum? 11:29
  - 1. Many try to control Jesus, harnessing His power for the sake of their agenda.
  - 2. We need to have a kingdom perspective when we look at our church.

### IV. Concluding applications.

- A. Jesus' authoritative words and acts demonstrate that the Kingdom of God is present. 4:18-19 7:19-23 11:20
- B. Have you been liberated from slavery to this dark world and entered into His Kingdom of grace and truth? Col. 1:13-14
- C. We have been sent and authorized to proclaim the kingdom of God. 9:2 Mt. 28:18-20 Acts 8:12 28:23,31

### Discussion questions

1. In what way was Jesus' teaching different from that of the other synagogue teachers?
2. What was Jesus' message?
3. Why was there so much demonic activity during Jesus' earthly ministry?
4. Why does Jesus silence the demons?
5. Where might the activity of demons be present in our day?
6. Why should we not fear demons?
7. Are all sins and sickness attributable to demonic activity? Why or why not?
8. How does Jesus' healing compare to that of modern "faith healers"?
9. What is the significance of these mighty works of Jesus?
10. Why did Jesus need to be alone? Why do we need to be alone?
11. Why wouldn't Jesus remain in Capernaum?
12. How are people today guilty of trying to control Jesus for their own purposes?